

Animals That Travel



Merry Christmas, Daniel!

Love,

Aunt Carol and Uncle Walt


12-25-82

Animals That Travel



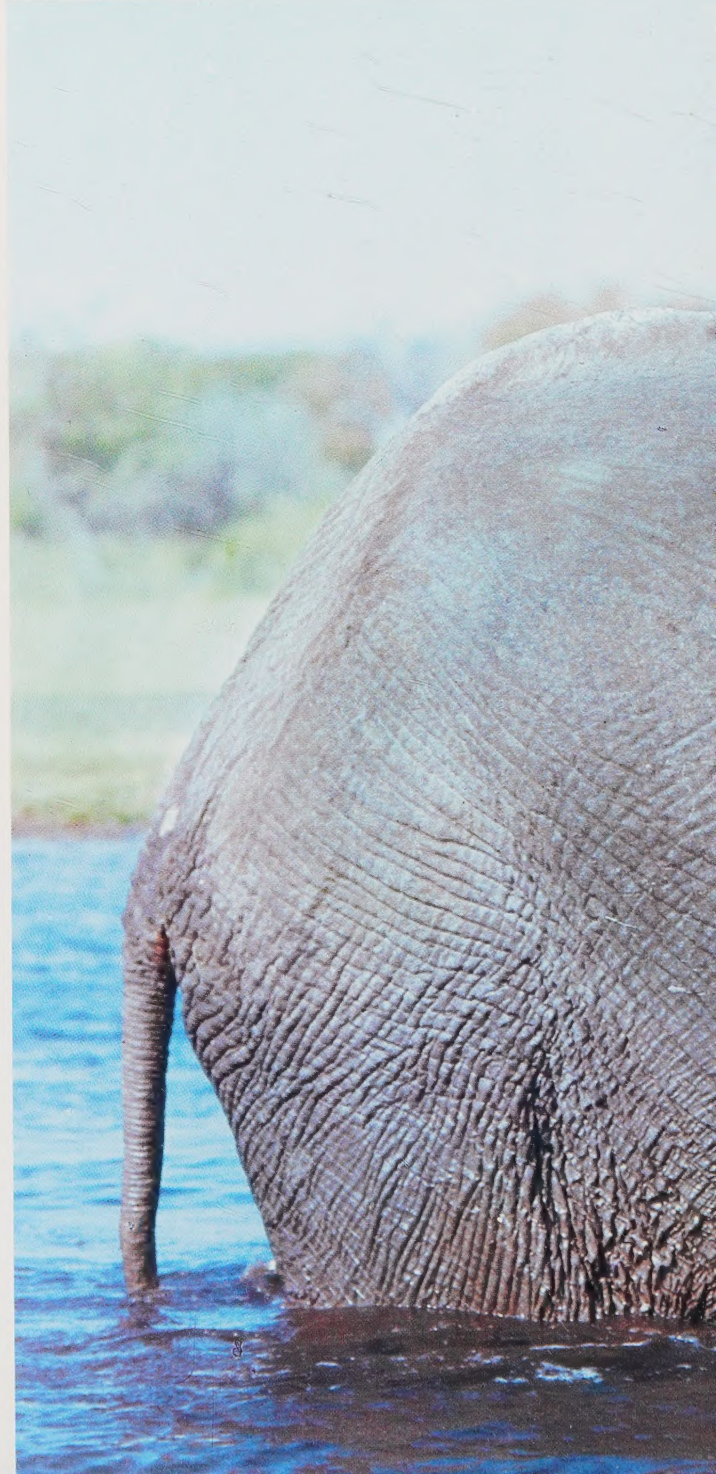
A sea turtle crawls back into the ocean after laying her eggs in the sand.

by Jennifer C. Urquhart

 BOOKS FOR YOUNG EXPLORERS
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



In Africa, a huge elephant squirts water into its mouth. Another elephant reaches for tree branches to eat. Because they are so big, elephants need a lot of food and water. For part of the year, it is dry where the elephants live. Sometimes they eat all the food in one place. Then they must travel to find more food and water.







WILDEBEESTS (*WILL-duh-beasts*) ON A MIGRATION (*my-GRAY-shun*)

Animals called wildebeests splash across a river in Africa. The wildebeests are traveling to find grass to eat. They move in a large group. Sometimes they walk in a long line. Sometimes they crowd together. Their journey is often hard.





Many kinds of animals travel at certain times every year. They travel to find food and also to mate and to have their young. Some animals move on land. Some fly through the air. Some swim through the water. Their travels are called migrations.





A bighorn sheep nibbles on plants in a valley. Other sheep cross a river in the valley. The sheep have come down from the high mountains for the winter. These mule deer are leaving the mountains. It is hard for them to find grass and other plants under the deep snow. The deer are going to a valley to find food. In spring, when the snow melts, all these animals will return to mountain meadows.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BIGHORN SHEEP





Caribou live in Alaska and Canada. They are very much like reindeer. In spring, they migrate to places where there will be plenty of plants to eat all summer. During this time, the caribou also have their young. A caribou calf can run with the herd just a few hours after it is born. Caribou have antlers. They grow new ones every year.



BARREN GROUND CARIBOU (CARE-uh-boo)





ARCTIC TERN



WANDERING ALBATROSS



An albatross travels far
across the ocean to join its mate.
The albatross has long wings.
Each one is as long as your bed.
When they meet
on their nesting island,
the male and the female
do a mating dance.

Animals that fly can travel farther and faster than other animals. Arctic terns like this one are champion fliers. Some terns travel from one end of the earth to the other and back each year. This is probably the longest migration of any animal.





Snow geese take off after resting. Geese and other birds fly to warmer places where there is plenty of food in winter. A girl holds a whistling swan. Do you see the collar around its neck? The collar will help scientists pick out the swan on its migration.



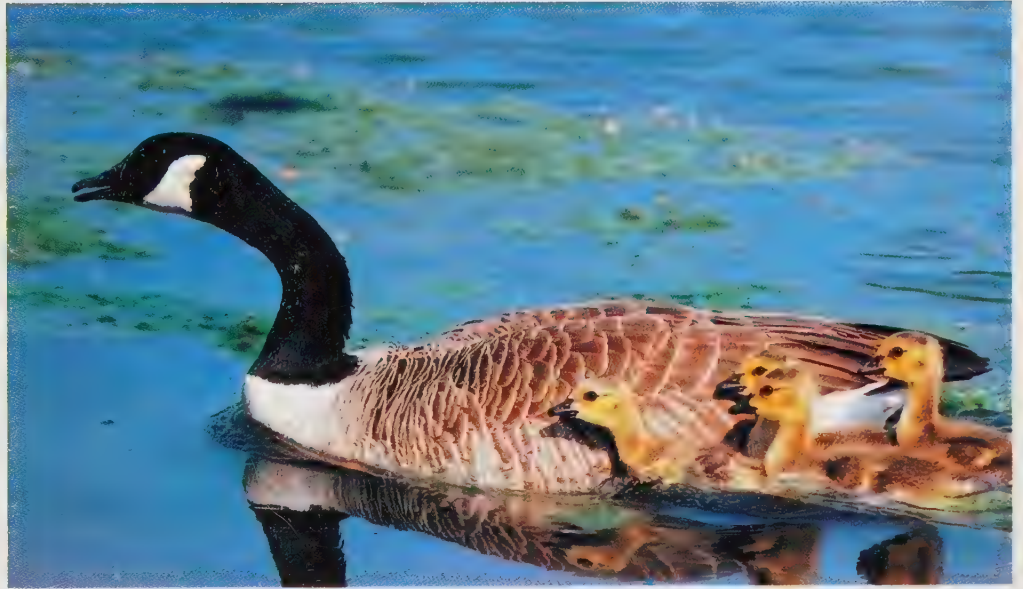
Snow geese fly in a big V shape. Birds called sandhill cranes fly in the moonlight. Other birds also migrate at night. Scientists think that they use the stars as a guide. Birds that migrate in the daytime may use the sun to guide them. Scientists are trying to learn more about how birds find their way.







A Canada goose guards her goslings.
Their soft, fluffy feathers are called down.
One egg has not hatched yet.



In spring, many geese fly a long way
to find safe nesting places.
They usually return to the places
where they were hatched.
Goslings are ready to go into the water
soon after they hatch. They can swim
almost as well as their parents.
These goslings stay close to their mother.
She will protect them.



ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD

**A hummingbird sips sweet juice from a flower.
The bird's body is smaller than your thumb.
Some hummingbirds migrate to warm places
where there are flowers and insects in winter.**



CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD

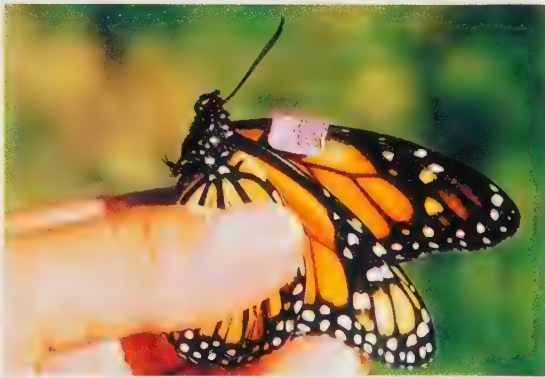
A hummingbird feeds her young.
Before they migrate, birds grow fat.
This gives them energy to fly far.
In their nest, baby house wrens
open their beaks wide for food.
Their mother will bring them insects.
In autumn, the wrens will fly south
for the winter. In spring, the parents
may return to the same nesting place.



HOUSE WREN

Monarch butterflies rest on wild flowers in a field. They are delicate insects, but they migrate very long distances.





For a long time, no one knew where monarchs spent the winter. To find out, scientists in Canada put tiny tags on their wings. They asked anyone who found a tagged monarch to send it back to them. They learned that millions of these butterflies migrate to Mexico for the winter. In spring, they fly north again. Don't they look like orange leaves?

Ladybug, ladybug,
fly away home!
Some ladybugs,
or ladybird beetles,
also migrate.
In California, some
ladybugs fly
to the mountains
in early summer and
stay there until
spring. Then they
return to the valleys,
where the females
lay their eggs.

These locusts chew
on corn leaves.
Sometimes locusts
eat all the plants
in one place
and then fly to
another place.



LADYBIRD BEETLES



MIGRATORY LOCUSTS



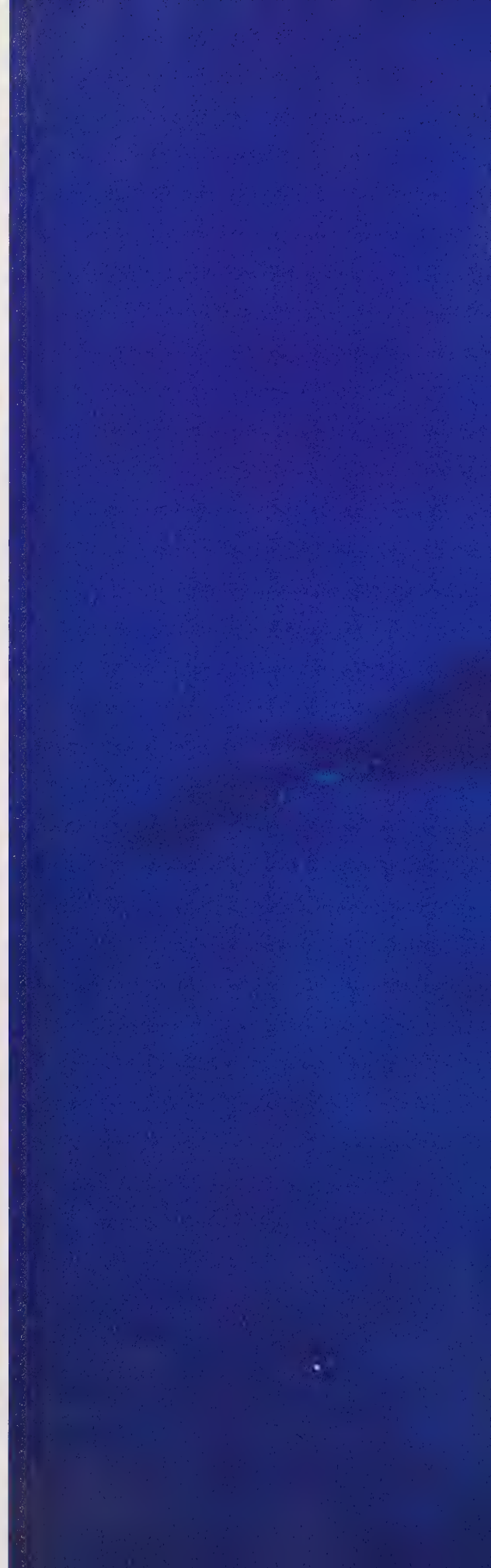
MEXICAN FREE-TAILED BAT



Hundreds of bats flutter out of a cave at dusk to catch insects to eat. Bats hang upside down and sleep during the day. Look at the bat hanging by its feet from a branch. Most kinds of bats travel at night. Some kinds travel far every year. They migrate to caves where they have their young. They also travel to find food.



Splash! A humpback whale jumps out of the water. No one knows why whales do this. Maybe they are playing, or maybe they are signaling to other whales. Whales go on long migrations in the ocean.



Most of the larger whales live in cold waters. In summer, they can find plenty of tiny sea animals to eat there. In winter, they migrate to warmer parts of the ocean to have their young. They eat very little then. This mother humpback whale swims with her large calf. They both have white markings on their flippers.



A harp seal rises from the water through a hole in the ice.
Most of the year, harp seals stay in the ocean.
In spring, they crawl onto the ice to have their young.
A mother harp seal lies with her pup on the ice.
How round she is! Her fat helps keep her warm.





Fur seals gather on a rocky island. The male is much bigger than the females. Do you see the little black pups? When they are bigger, they will swim far away. In a few years, some of them will come back here to have their own young.



NORTHERN FUR SEALS



A big red salmon leaps up a waterfall.
The salmon hatched in the river,
then lived in the ocean for a few years.
Now it is swimming back up the river.





A bear catches a salmon on its journey up the river. Many of the salmon reach the place where they hatched. There the females lay their eggs. In a few weeks, the eggs hatch. A baby salmon gets food from the egg sac on the underside of its body. When the salmon grow bigger, they will swim down the river to the ocean. One day they will migrate up the river to have their own young.

Penguins paddle through the ocean. They look as if they are wearing masks, don't they? Although penguins are birds, they cannot fly. They use their wings as flippers for swimming. Penguins live in the ocean most of the year. They migrate to the land to raise their young. After a chick hatches, its parents take turns guarding it and feeding it. When the baby penguin grows bigger, it will jump into the water and swim away.

MAGELLANIC PENGUINS





ADELIE PENGUINS



ROCKHOPPER PENGUINS



A big sea turtle pokes its head out of the water to breathe. Sea turtles live in warm waters. When they become adults, the turtles often return to the beach where they hatched. The female turtles crawl out of the ocean and onto the beach. Each one digs a hole in the sand and lays her eggs in it. They look like little white balls, don't they? After two months, a baby sea turtle hatches from its egg. The baby turtle is about the same size as your hand.



The little turtles crawl as fast as they can to the ocean. Would you like to follow the turtles and the other animals you have seen and find out where they go on their travels?



Sandhill cranes fly to their nesting grounds. The cranes call to each other as they migrate. This may help keep the flock together.

COVER: A caribou finds plenty to eat at its summer feeding ground in Canada.

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